

Louise believes that it is critical that the United States makes a sustained commitment to expanding renewable energy production. Our dependence on foreign sources of oil is propping up unfriendly regimes in the Middle East, degrading our environment and contributing to climate change. The Democratic majority has made it a priority to address the serious issues of energy dependency and environmental degradation and has already passed key pieces of legislation to set minimum levels of renewable electricity generation, address climate change, increase funding for alternative energy research and repeal billions of dollars in tax breaks for major oil companies.

Louise was proud to vote for H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES). By investing \$190 billion in clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency, ACES would boost our economic security and national security while protecting our environment and saving Americans money.

According to a World Resources Institute analysis, ACES would slash climate change pollution by 2,265 million metric tons in the year 2020 alone. And, through creation of a Renewable Electricity Standard that would encourage investment in homegrown renewable energy sources such as wind, biomass, solar, geothermal, and hydropower, ACES would boost our economy by unlocking billions in industry investment and serve as a major job creator. One recent study concluded it would create 1.7 million new clean energy jobs.

ACES would strongly promote the use of electric vehicles and boost American manufacturing by leveling the playing field with China and India, who have pledged to have electric cars on the American market in the near future. It would also require large utilities to develop plans to support electric vehicles, authorize financial assistance for retooling factories and integration of grid-connected vehicles, and increase production loan guarantees.

As Chair of the House Rules Committee, Congresswoman Slaughter has ushered through the House a number of other important bills relating to energy and the environment. For example, in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the Rules Committee under Louise's leadership sent to the House floor H.R. 3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources (CLEAR) Act. The CLEAR Act would provide new safety standards for offshore drilling, abolish the Minerals Management Service and establish in its place an agency structured to avoid the conflict of interest that helped keep MMS from doing its job, and close royalty loopholes, including those that allow companies to pay zero royalties during times of high oil prices.

